

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A paper additive composition comprising an amide compound (a) obtained by reacting a polyamine and a carboxylic acid or a salt of the amide compound (a),

wherein the polyamine is shown by formula (1):



wherein R is H_2N-R^1 or R^2 , and each R^1 is independently an alkylene group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, R^2 is an alkyl group or alkenyl group having 12 to 22 carbon atoms, and n is an integer of 1 to 3,

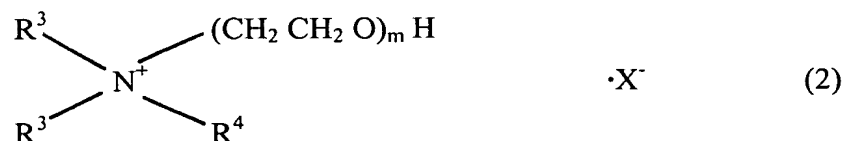
the number of carbon atoms of the carboxylic acid is 10 to 24,

the amide compound is obtained by reacting the carboxylic acid at a ratio of 0.5 to 4.3 moles per 1 mol of the polyamine, and

the ratio of a tertiary amine value to a total amine value of the amide compound (a) is 0.60 to 0.99.

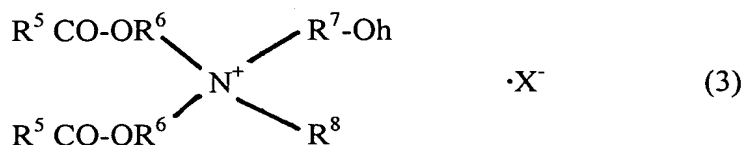
2. (Currently Amended) The paper additive composition of claim 1, further comprising an ammonium compound (b),

wherein the ammonium compound (b) is at least one selected ~~from~~ from the group consisting of a quaternary ammonium salt shown by formula (2)



wherein each R^3 is independently a hydrocarbon group having 10 to 24 carbon atoms, R^4 is an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms or a benzyl group, m is 1 to 10 and X^- is an anion, and

a quaternary ammonium salt shown by formula (3):



wherein each $R^5 \text{CO}$ is independently an acyl group having 10 to 24 carbon atoms, each R^6 is independently an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, R^7 is an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, R^8 is an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms or a benzyl group, and X^- is an anion.

3. (Currently Amended) The paper additive composition of claim 1 or 2, further comprising a polyacrylamide compound (c).

4. (Currently Amended) The paper additive composition of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the carboxylic acid has at least one of an unsaturated bond and a branched chain, or the carboxylic acid is a mixture of carboxylic acids that comprise a carboxylic acid having at least one of an unsaturated bond and a branched chain at a ratio of at least 40 wt%.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for producing paper comprising the step of:

adding the paper additive composition of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 at a ratio of 0.03 to 8 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of pulp in production of paper.

6. (Original) The method for producing paper of claim 5, wherein the addition step comprises an addition of the paper additive composition to a mixture comprising pulp and water in a paper formation process.

7. (Original) The method for producing paper of claim 5, wherein the addition step comprises an application of the paper additive composition onto a surface of a pulp sheet obtained in a paper formation process.

8. (New) The paper additive composition of claim 2, further comprising a polyacrylamide compound (c).

9. (New) The paper additive composition of claim 2, wherein the carboxylic acid has at least one of an unsaturated bond and a branched chain, or the carboxylic acid is a mixture of carboxylic acids that comprise a carboxylic acid having at least one of an unsaturated bond and a branched chain at a ratio of at least 40 wt%.

10. (New) The paper additive composition of claim 3, wherein the carboxylic acid has at least one of an unsaturated bond and a branched chain, or the carboxylic acid is a mixture of carboxylic acids that comprise a carboxylic acid having at least one of an unsaturated bond and a branched chain at a ratio of at least 40 wt%.

11. (New) A method for producing paper comprising the step of:
adding the paper additive composition of claim 2 at a ratio of 0.03 to 8 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of pulp in production of paper.

12. (New) A method for producing paper comprising the step of:
adding the paper additive composition of claim 3 at a ratio of 0.03 to 8 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of pulp in production of paper.

13. (New) A method for producing paper comprising the step of:
adding the paper additive composition of claim 4 at a ratio of 0.03 to 8 parts by weight with respect to 100 parts by weight of pulp in production of paper.